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THE USE OF COMPLEMENTARY & ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE AMONG CHILDREN IN ABERDEEN

-AN OUTCOMES BASED CROSS-SECTIONAL SURVEY

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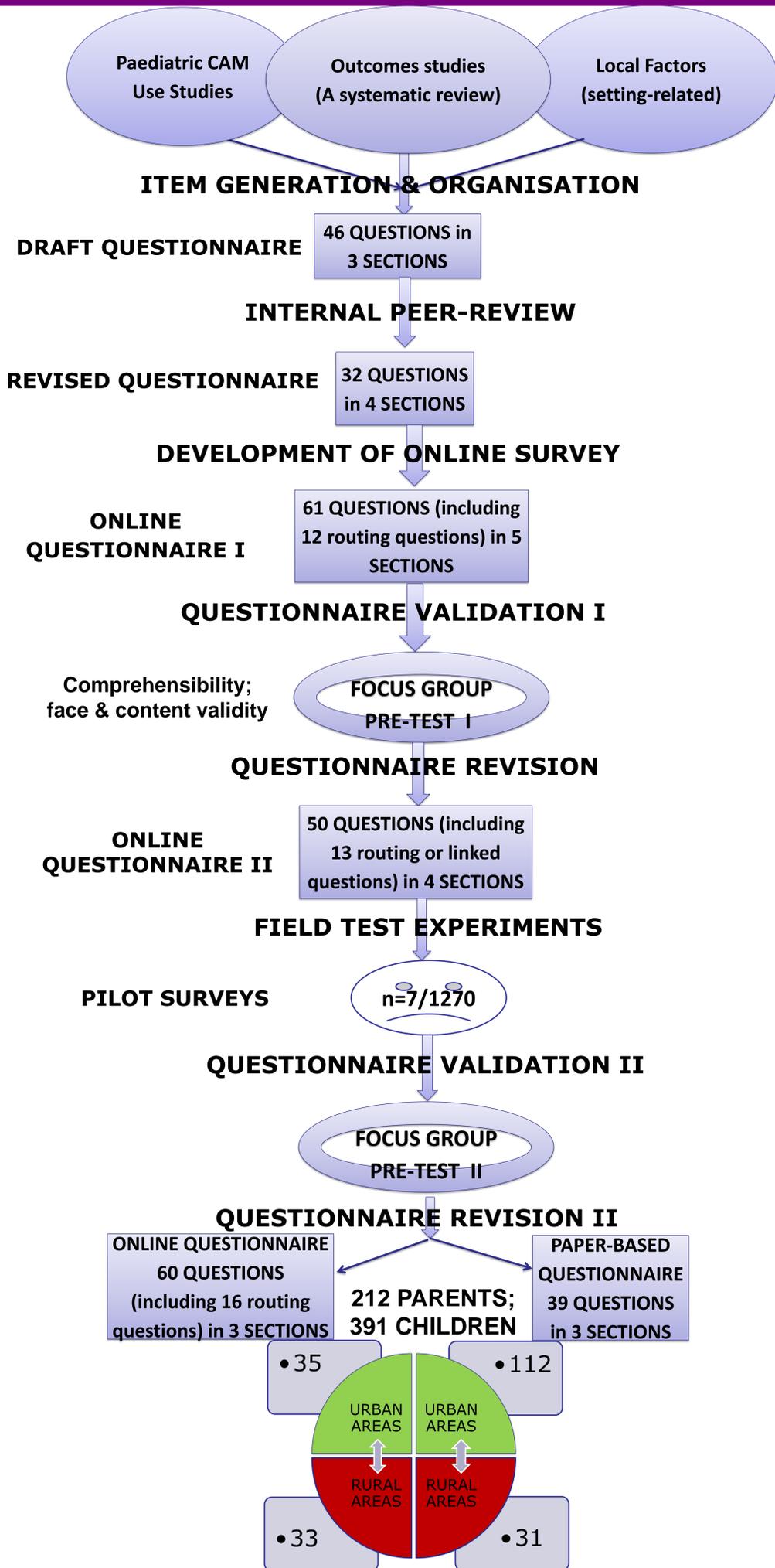
INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

The use of complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) in paediatric subjects is increasing globally¹. However, most of the data available in the UK is based on hospital-based studies; and studies of such use in the general population are scarce². Also, available British studies were mostly conducted in England; with much fewer Scottish studies³. The only such study in Aberdeen, North-east Scotland, was conducted 10 years ago. Current data on the subject is therefore needed, particularly for paediatric CAM use in the general population.

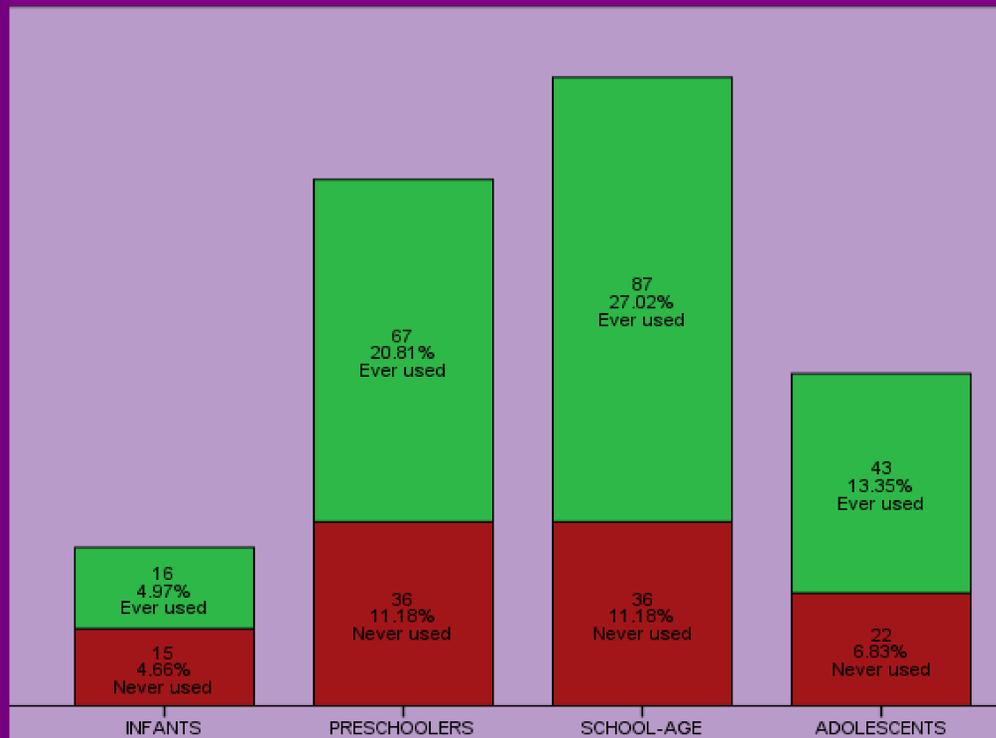
OBJECTIVE

➤To determine the nature and demography of the use and user-reported outcomes of CAM among children (aged <18 years) in the Aberdeen area of NE Scotland with respect to user-perceived effectiveness and safety

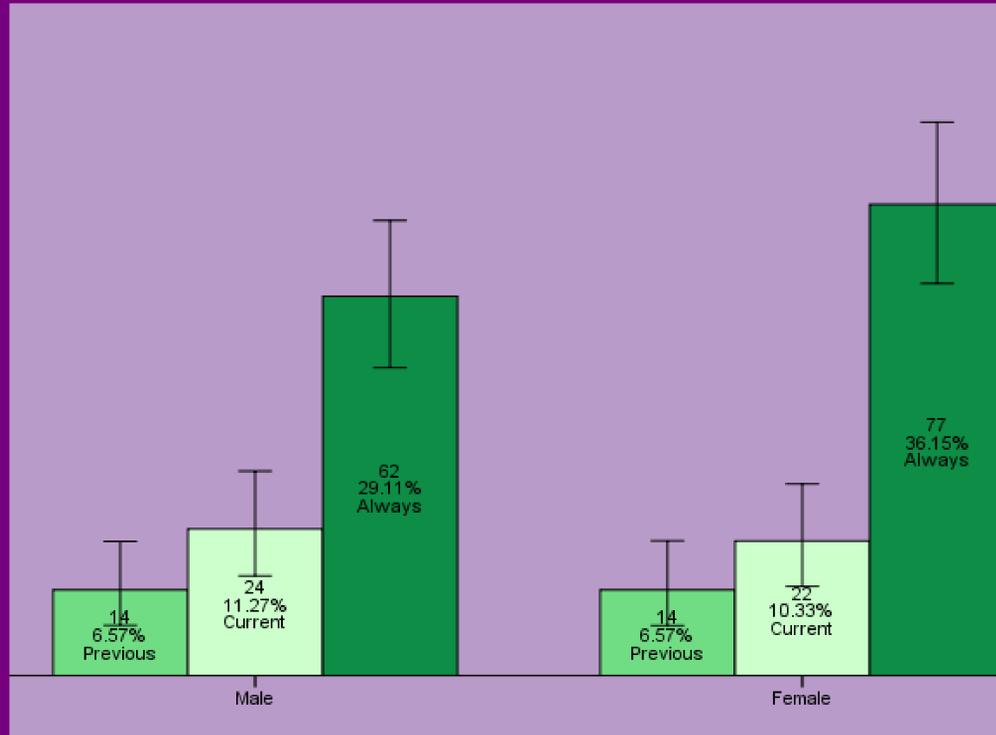
QUESTIONNAIRE DEVELOPMENT & VALIDATION



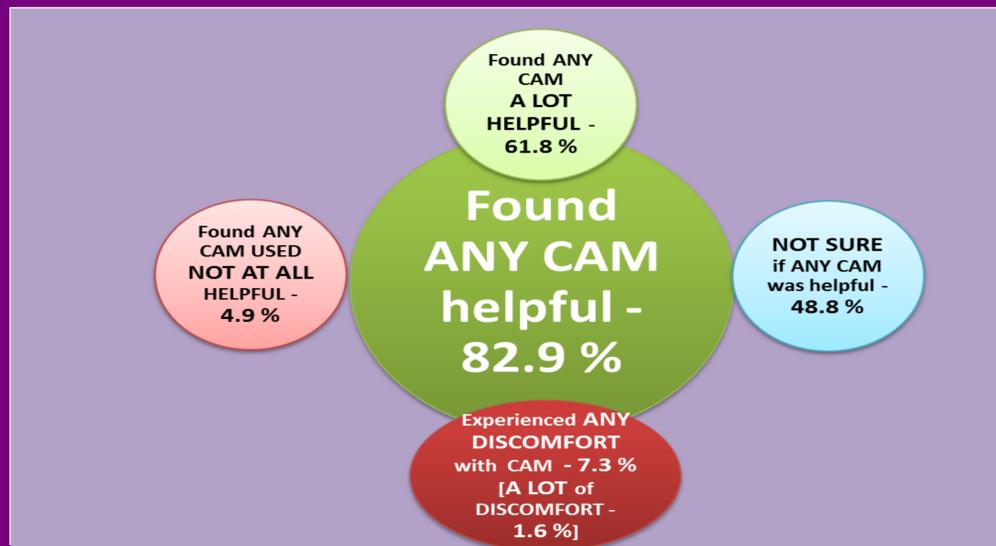
AGE GROUP DISTRIBUTION OF PAEDIATRIC CAM USE



SEX DISTRIBUTION OF PAST & PRESENT PAEDIATRIC USE



PERCEIVED OUTCOMES OF CAM USE IN CHILDREN



CONCLUSIONS

➤CAM is widely used by children in the Aberdeen area; and this use is increasing chronologically. Most parents find it helpful for their children; and very few report any adverse outcomes. More research is needed to clarify the role of CAM in child health and development in Aberdeen, and the whole North-east Scotland.

REFERENCES

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